

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O-L MACFARLANE

APPROVED BY: S/S-O-L MACFARLANE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 089812

NODIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM TEHRAN DTD 14APR 1976 QUOTE

S E C R E T TEHRAN 3746

NODIS

PLEASE PASS CAIRO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS,EG, IR,SUS

SUBJ: TRAINING FOR EGYPTIAN PILOTS

REFS: (A) STATE 087787, (B) TEHRAN 3713, (C) CAIRO 4908

1. GENERAL AZHARI, CHIEF SUPREME COMMANDER'S STAFF, RAISED WITH US APRIL 14 MATTER OF EGYPTIAN TRAINING ON C-130'S. HE HAD JUST RECEIVED LETTER DATED APRIL 8 FROM GOE ASKING FOR URGENT AGREEMENT TO ALLOW EIGHT PILOTS, WHO HAD PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE ON TRANSPORTATION AIRCRAFT, TWO NAVIGATORS AND SEVERAL TECHNICIANS TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH IIAF C-130S. ALTHOUGH LETTER STIPULATED THAT GOE WOULD BEAR ALL EXPENSES IN IRAN, AZHARI INDICATED IT WAS POSSIBLE GOI WOULD PICK UP TAB. HE THOUGHT EGYPTIANS WERE APPROACHING IRAN BECAUSE OF EXPENSE OF U.S. TRAINING.

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2. WE REVIEWED POINTS MADE PREVIOUSLY WITH GENERAL MASSUMI (REFS A AND B). RE F-4 AND F-5 TRAINING, AZHARI SAID TOUFANIAN HAD NOT BEEN "CLOSE" TO SUBJECT, AND C-130 TRAINING WAS ONLY ITEM ON AGENDA. (WE SUSPECT TOUFANIAN OF A LITTLE BAZAAR BARGAINING WITH ADDITION OF F-4 AND 5S.) WE SAID THAT MATTER OF C-130 TRAINING WOULD, LIKE PRICE, DELIVERY DATE, SPARES, BE TAKEN UP WITH EGYPTIANS AS PART OF PACKAGE OF ARRANGEMENTS WE WOULD NEGOTIATE WHEN CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS WERE COMPLETED. PROPOSAL FOR IRANIAN TRAINING WOULD BE DISCUSSED IN THAT CONTEXT. EGYPTIANS HAD AGREED TO THIS APPROACH, SEVERAL DAYS, IT SEEMED, AFTER WRITING LETTER TO AZHARI. WE ASKED THAT GOI WAIT SHORT TIME UNTIL WE HAD HAD CHANCE FOR COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOE.

3. AZHARI SAID HE WOULD REPLY TO GOE LETTER THAT GOI WAS READY TO BEGIN TRAINING AT ANY TIME AND WAS AWAITING APPROVAL OF USG.

4. AMABASSADOR IS SEEING SHAH MORNING APRIL 17. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF THERE IS ANYTHING ELSE HE SHOULD SAY ON THIS MATTER AT THAT TIME.
HELM UNQTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PILOT TRAINING, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, INSTRUCTIONS, CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, C-130, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE089812
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O-L MACFARLANE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760003-0244
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760461/aaaabzzi.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 87787, 76 TEHRAN 3713, 76 CAIRO 4908
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAINING FOR EGYPTIAN PILOTS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, EG, IR, US, (AZHARI)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006